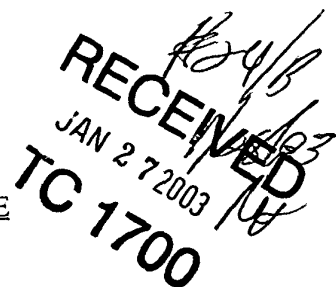


228477US6 CONT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
Yoshiaki YOKOYAMA, et al. : EXAMINER: LEUNG, J.  
SERIAL NO.: 09/711,362 :  
FILED: November 10, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1764  
FOR: TREATING APPARATUS, :  
TREATING METHOD AND  
METHOD OF TREATING SOIL

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated July 19, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 3, line 25 through page 4, line 13, please ~~amend~~ the paragraph as follows:

B<sub>1</sub>  
As the first hermetic chamber, a heating furnace and a reduced pressure heating furnace, for example, can be named. Such a hermetic chamber may have single chamber structure, and in addition, a plurality of such hermetic chambers may be arranged with doors between them. A purge chamber for purging a treatment atmosphere for an object to be treated, a preheating chamber for preheating the object to be treated, a cooling chamber for cooling the object to be treated, and the like may be further provided at a stage before or after